

Adoption Tails

The Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire

Winter 2011



Medical Miracles

Every year the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire fulfills its mission to assist homeless and unfortunate animals. This cause has never been more of a necessity than it was in 2010. In part because of the current economy, the League cared for a staggering 2,361 animals. This is an increase of over 450 animals from 2009! Sadly, many of these animals came from hoarding and neglect cases; situations where owners are unable or unwilling to properly care for their pets.

One particular case became a true call to action for the League's employees and volunteers. In June of 2010, forty cats and one dog were seized from a local owner. Although the League was given custody of a portion of the animals, another 22 cats and Eddie, the Beagle, were considered evidence for the case. Unfortunately, these animals could not be placed into loving homes until the case was heard by a judge and so the staff at the ARL-NH worked tirelessly for seven long months to provide medical care and behavioral enrichment. One kitty by the name of Mint arrived with extensive medical issues including a severely injured left paw. Due to a lack of care, her toe nails had curled into the pad of her paw causing a tremendous amount of pain as well as damage to her tendons. Despite numerous efforts to repair the area,

it was recommended that a portion of her leg be amputated. Mint underwent a successful surgery after a generous discount from a local veterinary clinic. Even with the discount, the League paid over \$1,100 for Mint's care. Thankfully, the League was granted custody of all the animals in January of 2011 and is now working to place them into loving homes!

In addition to the tireless work of our Animal Cruelty Investigator, the League



Mint recovering from surgery

prides itself in assisting individual animals that are in need of extensive medical care. Our relationships with area veterinarians allow us to intervene should an owner be unable to provide a life-saving procedure. One such clinic contacted us in October to help Sadie, a three year old pug. Sadie had been attacked by a dog and needed her right eye removed. She also had knee problems, extreme skin allergies and a heart murmur. She had a successful surgery and was given regular medication to keep her skin issues at bay. She recovered in the care of a loving foster parent and even learned to play with her foster parent's resident dog. showing no apparent fear of dogs despite her devastating experience. When she was ready for a new home, a local veterinarian just happened to come in and spotted her immediately. The family adopted her that day and she will now spend the remainder of her life in the home of a loving expert! Her surgery's cost to the League was not



Sadie after eye surgery

as cumbersome as thankfully many people stepped up to assist with Sadie' medical care. Without their help, we would have been hit with another high medical bill.

Shadow is a two-year-old black kitty that was brought to the League in October by a good Samaritan who found her on the side of the road. Shadow had a serious laceration to her tail, likely caused by getting run over by a car. She was lucky though and did not sustain any other injuries. Our staff acted immediately and she was rushed to a 24-hour emergency facility (the only available option on a weekend) where she received immediate care. Unfortunately, her tail was beyond repair and she needed to have it amputated. She made a full recovery and was adopted just before Christmas to a loving home who doesn't mind in the least that she has a stub instead of a tail. Her swift recovery cost the League \$1,489.59.



Shadow

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of New Hampshire
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Mission Statement

Pets give us so much. They teach us compassion, protect our families, work as therapy professionals, and entertain us. Pets comfort us when we've had a bad day and touch our hearts with their unconditional love. At the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire we save pets' lives, and they enrich ours.

Message From The President & CEO

Dear Friends of the League –

While I am excited about my next opportunity, I have very mixed emotions about leaving such an amazing group of staff, volunteers and supporters who, together, do such amazing things to give homeless animals their second chances.

I joined the League in January, 2006, and in the past five years I have been privileged to participate in amazing growth in programs that help animals and our community. In addition, the League was dramatically strengthened financially over these past five years. In looking back, I was thrilled to see the changes we've made, some of which are outlined below.

ACHIEVEMENT	2005	2010	New Programs	Facility Improvements
Animals Admitted	1,362	2,280	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spayalooza (public clinics) • Dog Transport • Emergency Vet Assistance • Safe Haven • Medical Miracle Worker • Camp Critter • Leadership Giving • Conway Affiliation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Feline Adoption Center "Dillinger's Dorn" - 2008 • New Quarantine Area "Echo's Haven" - 2009 • Renovated Dog Adoptions - 2010 • Clinic Renovation (funded for 2011)
Cruelty Case Animals In	95	528		
Animals Adopted	989	1,779		
Total Revenue	\$528,174	\$1,284,537		
Humane Ed Participants	~2,000	~9,600		
Active Volunteer Base	221	??		

While these accomplishments and the phenomenal teamwork of the staff, Board, volunteers and community have been tremendous, and the satisfaction of having the ability to make a real difference is immense, I think my favorite part of the past five years are the many, many animals I have fostered, two of which – Weenie and Spartacus – have become a permanent part of our pack!



Thank you so much to everyone who has made the past five years the most fulfilling ones of my professional career. And don't think you're getting rid of me that easily – I will continue to volunteer and I'll see you all at the events!

With appreciation,

Caroline Boyd

Caroline J. Boyd
President & CEO

Letter from the Board Chair



Robin Milnes, Board Chair

I would like to say thank you to Caroline Boyd for her service as President and CEO of the Animal Rescue League of NH. During the past five years, it has been a joy to watch our shelter grow and prosper under her dedicated leadership.

When Caroline joined us in 2006, the shelter was serving approximately 1,362 animals per year. I am proud to say that in 2010; approximately 2,280 passed through our doors en route to their forever homes. This dramatic increase in service is a direct result of the multitude of programs delivered and shelter improvements funded under Caroline's guidance and direction.

Caroline's accomplishments are many and are derived from her seeing specific needs in animal welfare and at our shelter.

When concerns were expressed over the physical limitations of our facility and the impact of those limitations on our ability to serve more animals, Caroline developed a three-year plan for funding and renovating specific areas of the building. A "fund-a-need" segment was added to our annual auction to raise money for specific improvements. As a result of the success of this program, our shelter boasts a renovated and expanded feline adoption center, a true quarantine facility, and a renovated and improved dog holding/adoption area.



Feline Adoption Center

In an effort to create a more predictable stream of revenue for operations, Caroline developed the Leadership Giving Program designed for those donors willing to commit at least \$1,000 per year to our organization.



Peaches was the first resident of new dog adoption area.



At Caroline's recommendation, a full time development position was added to focus solely on donor relations and philanthropic giving to our organization.

Our animal cruelty program has grown tremendously and is now reaching the entire state of New Hampshire. Many of the animals in cruelty cases are in dire need of medical care upon arrival. In an effort to stabilize the medical costs in this area, Caroline developed the Medical Miracle Worker program. Through this program, donors can choose to fund expensive medical procedures for specific animals.

So that we may further reduce our medical costs, we will complete renovations to our medical clinic in 2011 allowing us to provide a greater level of care to the animals on site. This project was made possible by the generosity of our donors at the 2010 annual auction (fund a need program).

Recognizing that children are our future and the importance of education in animal welfare, Caroline developed "Camp Critter" (a summer camp for children ages seven through 12) and the "Monthly Mews" (an online monthly newsletter targeting our younger audience)

Knowing that we had the kennel capacity combined with ready, willing and able adoptive families, Caroline was instrumental in getting our dog transport program up and running. Through this program, dogs that would otherwise be euthanized at shelters in the southern part of the United States have been brought to Bedford to find their forever homes.

We are proud of our affiliation with our sister shelter in Conway, the Animal Rescue League of NH – North. This affiliation allows us to broaden our geographic base and increase the number of animals served throughout New Hampshire. Caroline dedicated many hours to this affiliation, and her efforts are greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, employees, volunteers and donors, I would like to again say thank you to Caroline for an amazing 5 years. We wish her the very best as she pursues future endeavors. We are grateful that as a result of her efforts, the Animal Rescue League of NH is strong and well positioned to continue meeting the animal welfare needs of the community and State.

Best regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin Milnes".

Robin Milnes, Board Chair

It's Time To Sign Up For Summer Camp!



There is snow on the ground but before we know it, summer will be here. Many of us are counting down the days! It may seem like a long ways away, but it is already time to think about our summer camp program.

This will be the League's third year offering Camp Critter and this year will feature some fun changes. Camp will run for a total of six weeks this summer and will be open to children between the ages of seven and 11 years of age. Camp sessions will be comprised of blended age groups offering separate sessions throughout the day depending on the camper's experience and interest. This year will also feature "CAT's" (Counselor Assistance Trainers) that will assist the facilitator with daily camp activities.

Each Camp Critter week features animal related games, crafts, and activities. Previous years have included activities such as clicker training for cats, proper small animal handling techniques, observing shelter dog obedience classes, creating cat and dog toys, and so much more! If your child loves animals, this is the camp for him or her.

Camp will run Monday through Friday 9am – 3pm for the following weeks:

July 11th – July 15th
July 18th – July 22nd
July 25th – July 29th
August 8th – August 12th
August 15th – August 19th
August 22nd – August 26th

Camp tuition is \$200 for the week. Visit www.rescueleague.org or contact Gwynneth MacKenzie at gwynneth@rescueleague.org for more information.

Employee Spotlight



Jenna Abreu & Sabath

I joined the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire in May 2009 as Medical Manager. I am a Certified Vet Technician (CVT) and before joining the ARLNH I worked full-time at a local private practice assisting a team of eight veterinarians in everything from veterinary surgery to laboratory diagnostics.

Each day here at the shelter is different from the last. I am responsible for monitoring the health and well-being of all the animals at the League; not a small task for an organization that cares for over 2,200 animals each year! I also work closely with our Animal Cruelty Investigator to develop care plans for animals coming from hoarding and neglect cases. I assist our Staff Veterinarian with all the surgeries we conduct in-house and I train experienced volunteers on how to provide supportive medical care to our sickest patients.

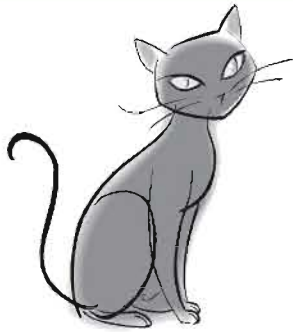
In 2009, I started a socialization and enrichment program for cats in the shelter. Unfortunately, many of the cats who arrive at the shelter are nervous and some have never been handled by people. I help to train a team of volunteers who work with our more fearful cats. This program has been hugely successful and the volunteers have been able to rehabilitate hundreds of cats in the last two years!

I am the proud parent of three cats. Two, 14-year-old Siamese cats named George and Eddie and a two-year-old Snowshoe mix formerly named Ling who was adopted from the ARLNH in 2009.

continued from cover...

In 2010, we cared for over 500 animals that came in through our outreach and cruelty program; 255 were from large-scale hoarding cases. A large portion of our animals required extensive medical care (above and beyond the standard spay/neuter, vaccine administration, flea and tick treatment and deworming) and we expect to see even higher numbers in 2011. Although it can be difficult to prepare for these types of situations in advance, the League maintains its commitment to remedy and treat any animal requiring our services. All in all, we spent over \$210,000 on animal care and medical procedures last year. This total exceeded our expected expenses by over \$100,000! Without the help of our generous donors, we would have struggled to provide such stellar care to the animals that needed us most. We continue to ask for your assistance in the coming year to ensure that every animal receives the best care and in turn, the best shot with a loving and forever home.

Come And Join The ARL of NH At Our Fundraising Events!



The ARL NH receives no state or federal funding. In addition to donations, we depend on the income from the events each year to sustain our programs and services.

Please attend these events and show your support for the League. For more information about any upcoming event, call Robin McCune at (603) 472-5714 or (603) 472-3647 or e-mail robin@rescueleague.org



Kennel Up!



Join us at the shelter on Saturday, March 19th to Kennel Up for the Animals. Bring your own cell phone and /or a laptop and a list of contacts and proceed to raise your adoption fee and receive your freedom. The League will host a private party after the event to celebrate the success of our participants' fundraising efforts and T Bones Great American Eatery has offered once again to cater this event. To sign up for Kennel Up, contact Robin McCune at (603) 472-5714 or email robin@rescueleague.org. You will have the opportunity to create your own fundraising page to secure donations or Robin can create it for you!

Photo: Robin McCune kenneling up to raise funds for the League

Bow Wow Bedford



their animal-themed products for your pet and don't forget to purchase lunch that day from T Bones. They will give 100% of the profits back to the League!

Join us at the shelter on Saturday, April 2nd for the Second Annual Bow Wow Bedford Tag Day. This event, which is sponsored by T Bones Great American Eatery and the Town of Bedford, offers attendees the opportunity to have their cat or dog vaccinated for rabies or microchipped for a nominal fee. Bedford dog owners will also be able to license their pooch at this event. Local vendors will be selling

Annual Evening of Compassion

7th Annual Evening of Compassion



donate to change lives

On Thursday, May 12th, the Animal Rescue League of NH will hold its annual Evening of Compassion; a fundraising dinner, at the Bedford Village Inn. This event allows the League the opportunity to relay our mission and success stories to a committed audience. The attendees are provided the opportunity during dinner to make a donation that will support the League throughout 2011. This event will feature a wine-tasting dinner and an opportunity to socialize with a group of committed pet lovers in the Southern New Hampshire area. To purchase tickets contact Robin McCune at (603) 472-5714 or email robin@rescueleague.org. Tickets to this fundraising dinner are \$85 per person.

Obedience Tips & Happenings



All breeds.....all sizes

A big thank you goes out to the Crazy Canine/Animal Rescue League obedience 3rd grade families for their support at our 2010 Pet Step dog walk fundraiser back in September. Once again our obedience families proved to be a force to be reckoned with by raising the second highest team totals that day. A fun time was had by all!



Ready to work!

Speaking of fun, want to have some? Consider beating the winter blues and getting out of the house one night a week for a training class held right at the Animal Rescue League. We train all ages, all sizes, all breeds; we even like people too! Individuals, couples or families can join our classes and not only work to help make your dog the best canine companion they can be, but it's a great chance to meet some other really cool dog owners as well. For more information on upcoming classes contact Maureen Prendergast at thecrazycanine@yahoo.com.

A little bored this winter? Do you find yourself too cold to go out for a long walk? Still need to exercise your dog? How about exercising your dog's brain? Dogs need mental stimulation just as much as we do, perhaps even more as they easily become bored. And as many of us know, a bored dog can sometimes be difficult to live with! Consider teaching your dog a game of Hide-n-Seek. Hide behind your couch, call your dog's name (make sure you use your happy voice!), or make any other crazy sounds that they might like and when your dog 'finds' you, try and be as enthusiastic as possible. Not only is it a fun game, but the bonus is it makes you look fun too! As dogs respond well to "fun", you should make sure that it's rewarding for your dog to come towards you. (Be careful when your dog gets loose, scolding your pooch when he returns can create a negative association.)

Another fun thing for a bored dog is to make them work for their food. Simply putting a dog's food in their bowl and walking away isn't too exciting. Before we domesticated them, dogs used to have to work and use their brains to get their food. Try stuffing even a small portion of their meal into a toy like a Kong or something similar. Start off easy so the food simply falls out when the dog pushes the toy around. For

a bit of a challenge, add a little peanut butter (not too much, a little goes a long way) and even freeze it for a while. Making it a bit more difficult for your dog to acquire the food will give your dog a little more work to do. Dogs don't complain when they have to work (only us humans!) In reality, they love working and it helps to break up a boring routine just a little bit. Training can be and should be fun for both you and your dog. Join a class and join the fun!

Adoption Spotlights



Lots of mice!

We currently have 23 male mice up for adoption. They all came from the same home and were part of unplanned litters. Since being at the shelter they have all been neutered and are ready to find a new home. They would do best in pairs (or more!) so they have a friend to play and snuggle with. These mice love to run on an exercise wheel and have a great time exploring their surroundings. They are all different in personality and colors, come find your perfect mouse companion!



Izzy

Hi! My name is Izzy and I am a two-and-a-half-year-old spayed female feline. I have been at the shelter since last March and I am looking for the perfect family to call my own. My ideal home would spoil me rotten and be my loyal subjects. I will happily tell you whenever I desire a snack or to be pet! I am a lap cat on my terms and all have quite the playful streak. I tolerate respectful dogs and cats and am content to snooze nearby them. I have overheard I am a staff favorite so I am sure my servants here can tell you all about me! Stop by anytime and we can see if I am the cat you have been searching for! My Feline-ality is: Sidekick (Orange).



Maple & Milkshake

Our names are Maple and Milkshake and we are two-and-a-half-year-old spayed sisters. We are Lop mixes so our ears sometimes go up or down! We keep each other company and are looking to find a home that will adopt us both so we can stay together. We are great about being handled and like to play with toys. We are even brave enough to meet other animals and would not mind being in a home with other pets.

Frostbite Facts & Precautions



During these chilly winter days, it is important to take the same cold-weather precautions for your pet as you would for yourself. Just like people, dogs and cats can develop frostbite when the temperatures drop. It is a misconception that they can withstand low temperatures because they have fur. Even breeds that have thick coats are susceptible during the New England winter.

The most important step you can take is to limit your pet's exposure to the cold. Shorter walks, fleece jackets and paw protectors are all ways to prevent frostbite. If you see ice on your pet's body or limbs, shivering or a bright red tint to their skin, these are all warning signs that he or she is becoming too cold. An animal left outside can develop frostbite quickly and should be seen by a veterinarian if they appear lethargic or unable to walk around. It is also important to contact your local Animal Control Officer or Humane Society should you see an animal outside without appropriate shelter and water. Taking these simple steps will help ensure a safe and happy winter for you and your pet!

